

DOLGELLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual
Health Report
For the Year 1950

Medical Officer of Health:
R. W. EDWARDS, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor:
FF. EVANS, M.S.I.A, M.R..San.I.





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ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT 1950.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE DOLGELLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

I have the honour of again presenting my Annual Report, this, for the year 1950.

The work of providing new homes for the long waiting list of applicants was continued and during the year 26 new houses were occupied. Serious cases of overcrowding and families suffering illhealth having to live under unsatisfactory conditions have yet to be dealt with, and every effort should be taken to solve the re-housing problem.

There were no outbreaks of Food Poisoning notified. The Council's adoption of the Model Byelaws dealing with the handling of food and their implementation will I hope bear fruit and that the food trade generally will accept their responsibility and co-operate with the local authority in this essential work.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	1,127
Population	...	...	...	...	...	2,704
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1950)	...	...	...	...	...	726
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£10,896
Sum Represented by 1d rate	...	...	...	...	...	£40 4 4
Density of Population	...	...	...	...	...	2.4

VITAL STATISTICS:

Live Births:		M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate	...	11	9	20
Illegitimate	...	2	1	3
(Birth Rate 9.96 per 1,000 of population. (corrected))				
Birth Rate for England and Wales 15.8 per 1,000 of population				

Still Births:		M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate	...	1	0	1
Illegitimate	...	0	0	0
Still Birth Rate 0.43 per 1,000 of population. (corrected)				
(Rate for England and Wales 0.37 per 1,000 of population).				

Deaths of Infants under one year of age:

		M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate	...	0	0	0
Illegitimate	...	0	0	0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births: Nil.				
(Rate for England and Wales per 1000 Live Births: 29.8.)				

DEATHS:	M.	F.	Total.
	20	16	36
Death Rate per 1,000 of population.....			13.31
Comparability Factor			0.97
Corrected Death Rate.....			12.91
Death Rate for England and Wales.....			11. 6

			England and Wales.
Other Death Rates (corrected):			
Tuberculosis	... 0.72		0.36
Whooping Cough	... 0.00		0.01
Influenza	... 0.00		0.10
Pneumonia	... 0.00		0.46

Causes of Death:

Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions.....	5
Heart Diseases	6
Cancer (all forms)	7
Bronchitis	3
Tuberculosis	2
Nephritis	3
Gastritis	1
Other Causes	9

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE (Staff)

- 1 Medical Officer (part time)
- 1 Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor (full time)

INFECTIOUS DISEASES... (Other than Tuberculosis)

Eight cases were notified during the year.

Measles.

Males aged—1½, '2, 2, 3½, 10 year.

Females aged — 5, 6 years.

Whooping Cough.

Female aged 6 years.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following table gives particulars of new cases of Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year 1950.

			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
			M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	...	...	0	0	0	0
1 — 5	...	...	0	0	1	0
5 —15	...	...	0	1	0	0
15—25	...	...	0	3	0	0
25—35	...	...	0	0	0	0

35—45	...	...	...	1	0	0	0
45—55	...	...	...	1	0	0	0
55—65	...	...	...	0	0	0	0
65 and over	...	...	...	1	0	0	0
Totals	...	...	...	3	4	1	0

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

The water supply in the area has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity. Supply has been limited in certain areas due to old and defective mains and services, which I understand are being attend to. The extension of the main supply to the houses at Maescaled and Pandryodyn was very necessary and it is to be hoped that other dwellings will benefit from further extensions.

In conclusion, as this is my last Annual Report, I wish to express my appreciation of the co-operation received from the Council during my term of office, and of the assistance rendered to me by the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Ffrangcon Evans. I wish my successor Dr. Evan Williams every happiness and success.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient servant,

R. W. EDWARDS,

B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Cae'rffynnon,

DOLGELLEY.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1950.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

I beg to place before you my third annual report.

HOUSING:

This year also, I am giving priority of place to that service which I am most concerned about at the moment, namely, providing houses for the needy.

In October 1950 the Council agreed to submit to the County Planning Committee proposals for using land on the Llwyn Farm for housing, but as this is still under consideration I refrain from commenting on our claims as against those of the Ministries of Agriculture and Transport. At the same time I feel that I should remind the Council to be always vigilant regarding the use, or I might say the mis-use of land within their district. It is to be regretted, in my opinion, that so much land of potential housing value is used for other purposes, in a district where reasonable housing sites are almost unobtainable.

The Council's waiting list has been revised and now consists of 169 names, of these 53 families are in rooms or split between two houses 25 families are living outside Dolgelley with the bread-winner working in the town.

96 families are living either in overcrowded or insanitary premises.

Most of the applicants have seen service in the armed forces.

It is our concern that the population of the County has decreased, no doubt bad housing has been a contributory factor and unless we realise that suitable land must be made available for housing need our population will be depleted further, the resultant loss to our civic life will be unmeasurable.

It is to be hoped that those entrusted with the planning of our town will realise their responsibility.

HOUSING ACT, 1949:

A conference was held, of representatives of local authorities within the County, to discuss the administration of this Act.

No action was taken by the Council during the year.

Particulars of other action taken are given below:

Defects or nuisances found	...	...	...	74 (premises)
Number abated	...	...	...	60
Numbers of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal notices	...	...	...	1

Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

No statutory notices had to be served.

Proceedings under Housing Acts:

No. of properties regarding which notices of	
Time and Place under Section 11, were served	3
Voluntary undertaking accepted	...
	3

HOUSING MANAGEMENT:

As already mentioned by the Medical Officer 26 Council houses were occupied during the year, the tenants selected have since shown a considerable interest in their new environment. Suitable trees have been planted and have been much appreciated.

Repair work is carried out, when necessary either by direct labour or by contract.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, Section 58.

No further progress has been made regarding reconditioning Victoria Buildings but the work on Siop Coch is almost completed.

Public Cleansing:

All figures under this heading refer to the financial year ended 31st March, 1951.

Refuse Collection and Disposal:

Twice weekly collections of household refuse on Wednesday and Saturday mornings were made throughout the year although the work has increased due to additional collection from new Council houses.

The Karrier Bantam Refuse Collecting Vehicle has continued to give good service.

Tipping was continued at the quarry site on Tallyllyn Road, and attempts were made to control the tip as far as it was practicable.

During the year the Governors of Dr. Williams' School were approached regarding controlled tipping at Pandyrodyn. It is to be regretted that this project was turned down especially considering the amount of low lying land suitable for tipping and utilisation within the district.

In connection with the Bin Service, which was introduced in April 1949 a total of 140 Bins have been issued up to date.

Salvage:

Occupiers of premises, especially of shops, continued to save waste-paper, and the collection service was maintained weekly:

A large amount of paper still finds its way to the dustbin and with increased prices the public should realise that saving this valuable commodity means a reduction in rates.

The Cost of Refuse Collection and Disposal including Salvage for the Financial Year ended 31st March, 1951 was made up as follows:—

			£.	s.	d.
Material, Rents, etc.	...	...	64	2	2
Labour.	...	...	402	14	9
Lorry Account	...	...	70	8	10
			537	5	9
Salvage Income.	...	...	179	7	7
		Nett Cost	357	18	2
Cost as Rate in the £	...	...			8.9d.
Cost per 1,000 population.	...	£132	7	3	

Street Cleansing:

The service included sweeping and gulley cleansing on unclassified roads.

Cost of the service for the Financial Year ended 31st March, 1951, amounted to £104. 12. 7.

Public Conveniences:

These have been maintained and cleansed daily although some members of the general public do not seem to appreciate this service.

Cost for the Financial Year ended 31st March, 1951.

			£.	s.	d.
Materials	...	...	15	14	4
Labour	...	...	51	14	3
Total maintenance cost	...	...	67	8	7
		Income	83	3	9

Disinfection and Disinfestation:

Disinfection was carried out at 2 premises. No action had to be taken regarding vermin. Bedding was collected and destroyed when requested and in one instance the occupier received compensation.

SEWERAGE:

The Extension Sewer serving the north side of the town was completed in June 1950 and has since proved satisfactory.

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTION:

The Slaughter-house at Arran Road was in use for part of the year only, the premises were closed down in August and the much needed improvement work put in hand. Slaughtering has since been carried out for the area at the Barmouth Slaughter-house.

It is to be hoped that slaughtering at Dolgelley will resume at an early date.

The figures relating to meat and other food inspection are given below:

CARCASES, PART CARCASSES AND ORGANS CONDEMNED.

	Beasts	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Carcases incl. all organs	11	1	16	—	28
Part Hindquarters	4	—	—	—	4
Heads	5	—	—	—	5
Lungs	5	—	—	—	5
Livers	13	—	1	—	14
Hearts	5	—	—	—	5
Intestines	5	—	—	—	5
Kidneys	2	—	—	—	2
Tail	1	—	—	—	1

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Beasts.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.
Number Killed	121	4	1195	8
Number Inspected	121	4	1195	8
All diseases except Tuberculosis				
Whole carcasses condemned	11	1	16	Nil.
Carcases of which some part or Organ was condemned	19	Nil.	1	Nil.
Percentage of the number ins- pected affected with disease				
other than tuberculosis	24.8	25.0	1.4	Nil.
Tuberculosis only.				
Whole Carcasses	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Part or Organs	3	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Percentage	2.5	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

DISEASES.

	Beasts.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Total.
Tuberculosis	3	—	—	—	3
Cirrhosis	7	—	1	—	8
Angioma	1	—	—	—	1
Fevered	4	—	—	—	4
Emaciation	4	—	10	—	14

Abcesses	2	—	—	—	2
Extensive Bruising	3	—	5	—	8
Inflammation	1	—	—	—	1
Dropsy	1	—	—	—	1
Actinomycosis	2	—	—	—	2
Nephritis	2	—	—	—	2
Septic Metritis	1	—	—	—	1
Moribund	—	—	1	—	1
Immaturity	1	—	—	—	1
Acute Pericarditis	1	—	—	—	1
Pyæmia	1	—	—	—	1

Other foodstuffs surrendered as being unfit for human consumption included the following:—

1 Tin Rabbit.	26 Tins Fish.
516 Tins of Milk.	14 lbs. Kippers.
18 Tins Soup	1 Tin Paste.
27 Tins Meat.	1 Tin Potatoes.
47 Tins Peas.	6 Tins Beetroot.
35 Tins Fruit	1 Jar Chutney
11 Tins Tomatoes.	1 Jar Pickled Onions.
23 Tins Beans.	4 Jars Olives.
4 Bottles Sauce.	20 Tins Ovaltine.
1 Tin Spaghetti.	1 Tin Meat and Vegetable.
15 Tins Carrots.	36 lbs Sausages.
23 lbs. Bacon.	37 lbs Cheese.

Food thus surrendered was removed for destruction.

MODEL BYELAWS FOR HANDLING, WRAPPING and DELIVERY OF FOOD.

These byelaws were considered by the Council in March 1950 and adopted.

A public meeting for members of the food trade was called to discuss the implications of the byelaws.

WATER SUPPLY.

The undertaking of the Dolgelley Waterworks was officially taken over on the 13th March, 1950.

The water supply was extended to Maescaled, Pandyrodyn, Fron-galed and to the new house at Dolsadlar. Other new connections were provided at other points in the town. New mains were laid to supply

both housing schemes, the 12 new houses at Ardd Fawr and the 22 houses at Froheulog.

The result of sampling are shown below:—

No.	Date.	Sample taken at	B.Coli per 100 ml.	Fæcal coli per cent.
1.	14. 6. 50.	Main Supply	0	0
2.	17. 7. 50.	Tanyfron Farm	1,800	100

The water at Tanyfron was considered unsatisfactory and the tenant was immediately informed of the result of the sample. It is intended to extend the main service to supply this property.

MILK SUPPLY.

A joint conference, with the County Council, District Councils and the Ministry of Agriculture represented, was held in November, 1950 to consider mutual arrangements in administering — the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949,

Dealers Licensed to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	1
Persons registered to carry on the trade of Milk Distributors		2

ICE CREAM PREMISES.

No. of manufacturing retailers registered	...	3
No. of other retailers registered		1

RODENT CONTROL.

Work of inspection was carried out during the year. A conference of representatives of district councils was convened to discuss joint action under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949. Arrangements are being made for Barmouth U.D.C., Dolgelley U.D.C., and R. D.C. to engage a joint rodent operator.

FACTORIES

Fifty-two premises are registered within the Urban area under the Factories Act. Action had to be taken after attention had been drawn to defects by the Factory Inspector.

Number inspected re Sanitary Conveniences	...	8
Number inspected re General Cleanliness		6
Number inspected re Means of Escape in Case of Fire	...	5
Defects found		11
Remedied		9

CIVIL BUILDING.

During the year three licences were issued for the building of private dwelling-houses, one of the licences was subsequently returned.

Four licences were issued for repairs and alterations to dwelling-houses, the total cost of the work amounting to £820.

CONCLUSION.

I desire to express to the Council my appreciation for the confidence reposed in me, and further, to thank the other officers for their co-operation and the foreman and workmen for loyal work rendered throughout the year.

I beg to remain,

Yours faithfully,

Ff. EVANS,

Sanitary Inspector & Surveyor.



